

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 96-256-C - ORDER NO. 96-693
OCTOBER 3, 1996

IN RE: AT&T Communications of the Southern)	ORDER SETTING
States, Inc.,)	MATTER FOR
)	HEARING AND
Complainant,)	ESTABLISHING
)	PRE-FILING
vs.)	DEADLINES
)	
GTE South, Inc./Contel,)	
)	
Respondents.)	
)	
)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the complaint of AT&T Communications of the Southern States, Inc. (AT&T or the Complainant) versus GTE South, Inc./Contel (GTE South or the Respondent). The basis for the complaint is GTE South's designation of itself as a "rural telephone company" under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 for all of its operations in South Carolina, which would suspend or modify certain portions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. AT&T and GTE South have different opinions as to whether this exemption is applicable in South Carolina for GTE South. Therefore, this Commission believes that a hearing should be held in the matter at such time as Staff may designate.

This matter is further before the Commission for the purpose of establishing pre-filing deadlines for testimony and exhibits. Under 61 Fed. Reg. 45478 (August 29, 1996), a Local Exchange Carrier (LEC) must bear the burden of proving to the Commission that a suspension or modification of the requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Section 251 (b) or (c) is justified. Therefore, pursuant to 26 S.C. Regs. 103-869(C)(Supp. 1995), the Commission hereby orders that twenty-five copies of the testimony and exhibits of GTE South, Inc./Contel shall be pre-filed on or before **November 21, 1996**, and that twenty-five copies of the testimony and exhibits of AT&T shall be pre-filed on or before **December 5, 1996**. In addition, parties shall serve their pre-filed testimony and exhibits on all other parties of record as required by the Commission's Rules and Regulations.


Please take note that any party requesting modification of this schedule must file a request for such modification with the Commission.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. A hearing shall be held in this matter at such time as the Commission may designate.
2. Testimony and exhibits shall be pre-filed as stated above.

3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)